

AUG 24 1965

STATINTL

Dodd Accuses Senate Committee Staff**Slanted Dominican Viewpoint Is Charged**

By JOHN T. SKELLY

The Latin American Times Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23 — Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) today in effect accused the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of giving a slanted viewpoint in a recent document about the events that took place in the Dominican Republic uprisings this year.

The document entitled "Background Information Relating to the Dominican Republic" was prepared for the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for their closed-door hearings on the Dominican Republic. Sen. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) said that no report would be issued because the committee members were so divided on the findings.

Sen. Dodd, himself a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said in a lengthy speech on the Senate floor that the Foreign Relations Committee staff had compiled more than 100 quotes from three Eastern seaboard newspapers for the document. He accused the staff of ignoring other sources of the U.S. press whose reportings, Sen. Dodd said, backed up President Johnson's decision to land troops in the Dominican Republic.

Sen. Dodd also pointed out

that the committee's report failed to make reference to the document compiled by a special OAS committee that made an on-the-scene report to the OAS foreign ministers. He said that this committee's report "shared the administration's evaluation of the degree of communist control in rebel movement, and that in general, they felt that the Administration had taken the only possible course of action."

Referring to the omission on the part of the committee's staff of news sources other than the three Eastern seaboard papers, he said:

"This one-sidedness is simply another manifestation of the widespread impression, especially in the Eastern part of our country, that the American press corps in Santo Domingo was almost unanimously critical of President Johnson's decision and skeptical of the reports put out by the American Embassy in Santo Domingo and by the Department of State.

"This impression stemmed more than anything else from the bitterly critical attitude of the correspondents assigned to cover the Dominican uprising by the three major metropolitan newspapers of the Eastern area—The New York Times,

The New York Herald Tribune,

and The Washington Post."

Sen. Dodd emphasized, however, that he had no quarrel with the three newspapers, pointing out that they were the first three he read every day.

"However, the Times and Tribune and Post, are not by themselves the press of America. Nor despite the great reputations they enjoy, are their correspondents any more experienced, any more competent, any more deserving of credibility, than are the correspondents of our wire services and our news magazines and of the many other great American newspapers, large and small," he said.

Sen. Dodd also noted that the committee's document overlooked statements on the Dominican Republic situation issued by the AFL-CIO, CONOTRAM, the largest Dominican Labor Federation, as well as statements by the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers.

He expressed hope that "the staff of the Foreign Relations Committee will be instructed, in preparing such future studies to bring together all pertinent documents and not merely selected documents, and to select their press quotations in a manner that presents both

Continued

CPYRGHT